

**House of Representatives  
Technology, Telecommunications, and Energy  
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2004**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE
September 20-21	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	1. Renewable energy and energy efficiency - Update on renewable energy portfolio initiatives. 2. Implementation of carbon dioxide emissions legislation update. 3. Regulatory structures in the new economy. a. Establishing performance benchmarks for regulatory agencies - Utilities and Transportation Commission.	Work Session
December 2-3	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	1. Overlapping electric utility service - Briefing on the status of current issues. 2. Regulatory structures in the new economy - Developing government regulatory structures that encourage investment and protect consumers.	Work Session

**Project Title: Renewable energy and energy efficiency.**

**Project Goal:**

**Monitor development of legislative proposals to encourage renewable energy and energy efficiency.**

**Project Description:**

Several bills have been introduced and considered by the committee dealing with renewable energy and energy efficiency. Some issues have spanned the past 4 sessions. One recurring issue is whether Washington should adopt a standard or guideline requiring Washington utilities to include a percentage of renewable energy in their mix of energy resources. The committee has held work sessions on the potential and actual development of renewable energy resources in the state and issues that may present barriers to future development. The committee will tour recently completed renewable energy projects. The committee will also receive a briefing from interests working on potential legislative proposals for the 2005 session.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** September work session

**Completion Date:** December 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Pam Madson

**Project Title: Implementing carbon dioxide emissions legislation.**

**Project Goal:**

**Monitor the development of rules to implement carbon dioxide emissions legislation and evaluate the need for additional baseline information.**

**Project Description:**

Electrical generation plants that use fossil fuels, such as natural gas and coal, contribute to emissions of greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide. The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) has included mitigation requirements for carbon dioxide emissions as part of the requirement for siting large electrical generation facilities. Small generation facilities must obtain an order of approval from the Department of Ecology (DOE) or a local air pollution control authority. Both the EFSEC and the DOE have been developing rules for the mitigation of CO2 emissions. The 2004 Legislature passed SHB 3141 setting in statute a regulatory framework for mitigation of CO2 emissions from electrical generation plants. The requirements apply to both large and small generation plants that are built after July 1, 2004 or to existing plants that increase CO2 emissions by 15 percent or more. The committee will be updated on implementation of this legislation including development of rules by the regulating agencies. Additional information will be developed to serve as baseline information on the emissions resulting from existing generation plants.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** 1 work session (Briefing held in conjunction with other issues in September)

**Completion Date:** December 1, 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Pam Madson; Staff from the Energy Policy Division of the Department of Community Trade and Economic Development; the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council; and the Department of Ecology.

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**Project Title: Regulatory structures in the new economy.**

**Project Goal:**

Educate members on alternative regulatory structures and adopt benchmark's.

**Project Description:**

Today's economy is increasingly characterized by a global market for investment capital in the technology sectors including energy and telecommunications. The committee will explore regulatory structures consistent with a global economy that encourage investment while protecting consumers. The committee will study benchmarks to better evaluate the performance of utility regulators.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** 2 work session briefings

**Completion Date:** December 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Pam Madson; Kiki Keizer

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**Project Title: Overlapping electric utility service.**

**Project Goal:**

**Project Description:**

During the 2003 legislative session, the committee considered HB 2130 dealing with duplication of transmission lines. The committee will conduct a work session on current outstanding issues that may require legislative action.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** 1 work session in December

**Completion Date:** December 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Pam Madson

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## STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

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**Project Title:** The use of performance contracting and contract financing to produce energy savings that may be used to encourage retention of businesses and jobs in Washington.

**Project Goal:**

Develop legislation to implement a program of energy conservation allowing saved electricity to be redirected to high-use energy industries.

**Project Description:**

During the 2004 legislative session, the committee considered SHB 3155 that requested recommendations from the Department of General Administration on capturing energy conservation within state and local government and using the saved energy to provide low-cost electricity to customers that use five megawatts or more of electricity. This bill initiated discussion of this concept. The committee seeks further development of this concept. Members and staff will explore the energy conservation that may be obtained in operation and construction of buildings of state and local governments and the possibility of converting that saved electricity into low-cost electricity for qualifying customers.

**Number & Type of Meetings:** None scheduled

**Completion Date:** December 1, 2004

**Staff Assigned:** Pam Madson

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